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DOCKET NO.: 9958-002-27 CONT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Re: Serial No.: 09/811,509  
Applicant(s): John SHANNON, et al.  
Filing Date: March 20, 2001  
For: METHODS AND ORGANISMS FOR CONCENTRATING AND  
RECOVERING METALS AND MINERALS FROM AQUEOUS MEDIA  
Group Art Unit: 1632  
Examiner: Shin Lin Chen

SIR:

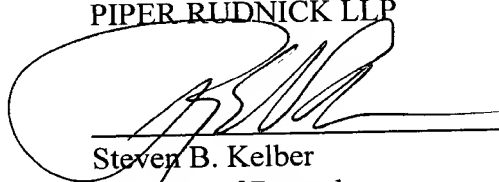
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Our check in the amount of \$ 0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary extension of time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to Deposit Account No. 50-1442. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a request is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP

  
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DOCKET NO. 9958-002-27 CONT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: JOHN N. SHANNON, ET AL.

ART UNIT: 1632

SERIAL NO.: 09/811,509

EXAMINER: CHEN, SHIN LIN

FILING DATE: MARCH 20, 2001

FOR: METHODS AND ORGANISMS FOR CONCENTRATING AND  
RECOVERING METALS AND MINERALS FROM AQUEOUS MEDIA

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated September 10, 2002, Applicants elect, albeit with traverse, Group I, Claims 23, 26, 28, 29, and 31 for further prosecution at this time.

**REMARKS**

The Examiner has required restriction in the above-identified application as follows:

Group I: Claims 23, 26, 28, 29 and 31, drawn to a method of recovering metals and minerals from sea water by using a sponge that harbors bacteria capable of concentrating said metals or minerals, classified in class 435, subclasses 325 and 243.

Group II: Claims 24 and 30, drawn to a method of recovering metals and minerals from sea water by using a sponge that harbors a transgenic bacteria capable of concentrating said metals or minerals, classified in class 435, subclasses 325 and 252.3.

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